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CHAMPION MARY MONTROSE. OWNED BY WILLIAM ZIEGLER, JR., OF NEW YORK. FROM A PAINTING BY MAUDE EARL. TRIPLE CHAMPION WINNER OF THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP IN 1917 AND 1919, WINNER OF THE DERBY CHAMPIONSHIP IN 1917, PLACED FOURTEEN TIMES IN FIELD TRIALS. AWARDED HONORS IN MADISON SQUARE GARDEN, 1917

Famous Pointers

BY T. C. TURNER

THE Pointer is credited with having originally come from Spain, and there is evidently truth in this belief—for today travelers in that country will not infrequently come across dogs resembling the type of dog first recognized as the tracking hound, and used two hundred years ago by the sportsman to track his game, and we find that early engravings also delineate such types occasionally.

France also had a dog of the Pointer type, but lighter than the Spanish dog, and it is quite possible that the English type dog is descended from these and other dogs. Old prints dating back as far as 1650 show us "tracking hounds" which somewhat resemble the pointer. The first mention of the pointer as a sportsman's dog comes to us in verse when Gay, in his poem *Rural Sports* (1711) writes in the following stanza:

"See how the well-taught pointer leads
the way:
The scent grows warm, he stops, he
springs the prey;
The fluttering coveys from the stubble
rise,
And on swift wing divide the sounding
skies,
The scattering lead pursues the certain
sight,
And death in thunder overtakes their
flight."

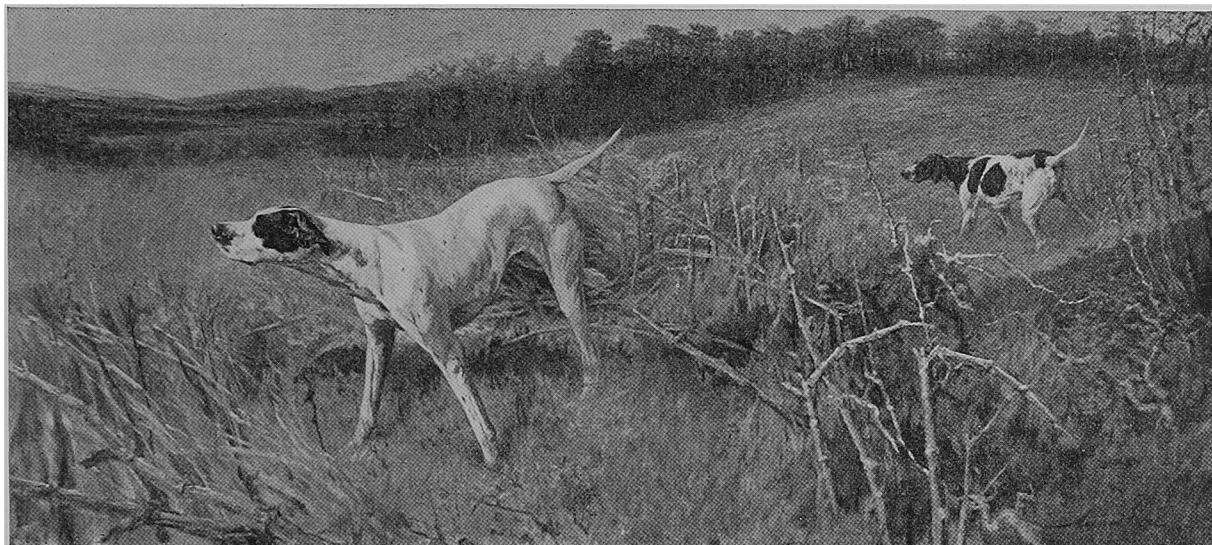
By 1786 the pointer had become a well established hunting dog, an illustration in Colonel Thornton's *Tour Through Scotland* giving evidence of this by the pointer pictured accompanying Captain Fleming and his hawks. The dog, at that time, was used with spaniels as an aid to falconers before the art of shooting game in flight had become so universal under the development of the modern gun.

The early type of pointer was a much heavier dog than that which we now use,

and by reason of his weight was slower afield, but fast enough for the use he was put to in the days of netting birds, and later when the hawk was used. The pointer became recognized as an easier dog to handle than the setter. Pace did not bother the early sportsmen who seldom traveled more than three miles an hour. The Spanish dog was very heavy in head and jowl, deep flews, sunken large eyes, and tremendous bone, reminding one somewhat of our bloodhound, and not possessing the sleek coat which later was the pride of all breeders. He was mainly liver-colored, with some white, and it was the custom to shorten the tail about one third. In *Jesses's Anecdotes of Dogs* Reinagle give us a specimen of the improved dog with far more white in his color, and less lumber, and with the tail left in its natural state. About a hundred years ago the old heavy type gradually lost favor and a faster and lighter dog was developed, until to-day our modern pointer, with all the old instincts of his predecessors, and many additional qualities, has become a thing of beauty, in form and colour.

When one takes note of a pointer pointing pheasants, a painting by Oudry in the Louvre Collection, and upon the type of dog shown us by Cooper, Gil-

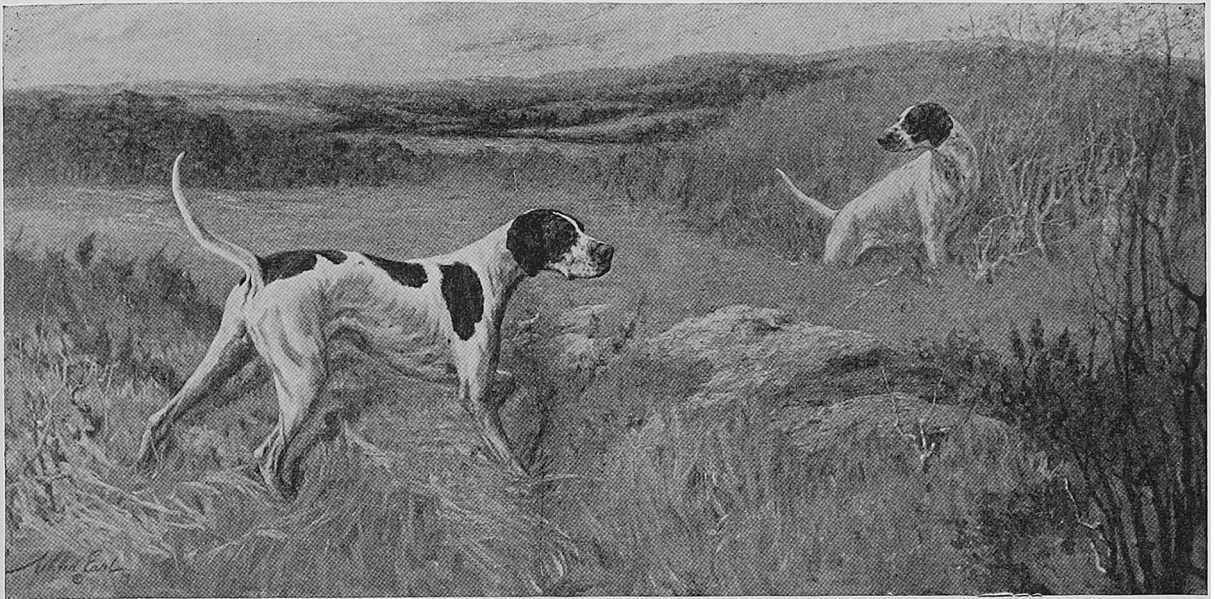
pin, Bewick and Reinagle, all of whom were artists of high standing in the delineation of animals, artists portrayed naturally the dog as they saw him in their day, we can realize by comparison how great a change has taken place in pointer breeding, by a glance at accompanying illustrations of the pointers owned by Mr. William Ziegler, Jr., of New York, painted by Miss Maud Earl, the noted English animal painter, whose work in dog painting has not been surpassed. In her study of dogs Miss Earl had much valuable assistance from Mr. William Arkwright, the well-known English authority on the pointer, an authority recognized the world over. These canvases by Miss Earl at once show that not only has she painted admirable dog pictures but also that she has that valuable faculty of grasping the special and peculiar traits of her particular subject. In her painting showing Royal Flush and Great Island Robert the Devil, Royal Flush is shown making a particularly fine point while Robert the Devil seems to be backing in what might be considered an unusual way; but it is his particular habit when backing his companion to turn his head directly facing the dog at point, irrespective of the location of the game



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GREAT ISLAND RINGING BELLS (IN FOREGROUND), SEVEN TIMES WINNER IN FIELD TRIALS, INCLUDING THE AMERICAN FIELD FUTURITY OF 1917. THE DOG SHOWN TO THE RIGHT IS COMANCHE RAP, PLACED NINE TIMES IN FIELD TRIALS. OWNED BY WILLIAM ZIEGLER, JR., OF NEW YORK. FROM A PAINTING BY MAUDE EARL



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ROYAL FLUSH, RUNNER UP TO MARY MONTROSE IN THE DERBY CHAMPIONSHIP OF 1917, PLACED FIVE TIMES IN TRIALS. GREAT ISLAND ROBERT THE DEVIL, A YOUNG DOG SLATED TO OUTRIVAL HIS NOW MORE ILLUSTRIOUS SISTER. OWNED BY WILLIAM ZIEGLER, JR., OF NEW YORK. FROM A PAINTING BY MAUDE EARL

pointed. Again in the picture of Ringing Bells and Comanche Rap, Ringing Bells is shown pointing with her ears thrown back, a rather unusual action, but perfectly typical of the dog. In the portrait of Champion Mary Montrose, Miss Earl shows an ideal point of a magnificent dog. No pointer in years has been in finer condition or more beautiful to look upon when at work, than Mary Montrose. Mr. William Ziegler, Jr.'s kennel is remarkable in possessing such famous dogs, dogs of such excellent pedigree, for Mary Montrose, Royal Flush, and Robert the Devil are all of Comanche Frank and Lorna Doone stock and Ringing Bells is also of Lorna Doone stock, and Comanche Rap is her half-brother. Not only are these dogs famous as field trial winners, but they are also extensive winners at the bench shows. Particularly may this be said of Mary Montrose, who in the field won the National Championship of 1917 and 1919, and the Derby Championship of 1917. She was also awarded "first" in the winners class at the Westminster Kennel Club's Bench Show held in Madison Square Gardens in 1917. It has often been argued that

the qualities of a bench-show dog could not be combined with the working qualities necessary for the field. This certainly has been definitely disproved in the case of Mr. Ziegler's pointers.

Up to about 1860 the pointer was seldom seen in any other color than liver-and-white in blotches, but since that time lemon-and-white, speckled liver-and-white, and black-and-white have had their admirers among the fancy. Blacks are now seldom seen. Daniel Lambert had an especially good strain of black pointers which after his death in 1840 commanded high prices. The Duke of Kingston blacks were also well-known.

The pointing instinct is naturally the foremost development of the dog, and many examples have been quoted of pointers not breaking their point for hours. That famous author "Idstone," says in his book, "I never knew birds lie for more than an hour to a dog's point, though I have the authority of an eye witness, that in traveling from Leicester to Oxford in the memorable frost of 1914 he came upon a dog which had been frozen dead on his point, possibly being overlooked or lost by his owner towards the decline of day."